Serial No. 10/625,033 Filed: July 22, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance or into better condition for appeal. The Examiner is thanked for considering claims 15 to 26 to be allowable.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-67 are pending. Claims 1, 3 and 9 are amended, and claim 2 is cancelled, without prejudice. No new matter is added. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue cancelled subject matter in a continuation application.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Further, the amendments and remarks presented herein are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, the amendments and remarks are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

A Petition for Extension of Time - 1 month - is enclosed. If any additional fee is deemed necessary, authorization is given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 08-2525.

II. 35 U.S.C. §§ 102/103 REJECTION

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Chem. Abstract 134: 183490; and claims 1-14, 51 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over the Chem. Abstract or U.S. Patent No. 4,670,417 or WO 0146291.

The amendments to the claims render the rejection moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 102 and 103 rejections based on the preceding documents are respectfully requested.

Serial No. 10/625,033 Filed: July 22, 2003

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks herewith, the application is in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal. Favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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